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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

By: Jandrick

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GEOFFREY R. BALL

Application No.: 09/145,374

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: BIASING DEVICE FOR

IMPLANTABLE HEARING

DEVICES

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

3736

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37

CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

GEOFFREY R. BALL Application No.: 09/145,374

Page 2

Applicant believes that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Ames M. Heslin Reg. No. 29,541

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